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Dkt. 43016-B/JPW/SHS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Philip Livingston and Friedhelm Helling
U.S. Serial No.: 08/477,097 Group Unit: 1645
Filed : June 7, 1995 Examiner: A. Caputa
For : GANGLIOSIDE-KLH CONJUGATE VACCINE PLUS QS-21

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
May 17, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO APRIL 15, 1999
FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND SUBMITTED AS A FIRST SUBMISSION**

This Amendment is submitted in response to an April 15, 1999 Final Office Action and as a First submission pursuant to a Communication Requesting Withdrawal of Finality under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a) of the an April 15, 1999 Final Office Action and Petition for a Five Month Extension of Time. With the five-month extension of time, a response to the April 15, 1999 Office Action is now due May 15, 1999. However, since May 15, 1999 falls on a Saturday, the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday, i.e. Monday, May 17, 1999, is considered timely under 37 C.F.R. §1.7.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims

Please amend claims 53 and 65 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b) by deleting the bracketed material and inserting the underlined material as follows:

--53.

(Amended) A composition comprising a GM2 or GD2 ganglioside conjugated through the ceramide portion of the ganglioside to an immunogenic protein-based